

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**
www.mlcs.ca

2010 - 2011 ARABIC 211 (Fall Term):
Intermediate Arabic I

Instructor: Iman Mersal

Time: Mondays, 1:00PM -1:50 PM
Tues & Thurs, 12:30-1:50 PM

Place: HC 2-38
Place: HC 2-15

Office: Arts 242C

Fax: 492-9106

E-mail: imersal@ualberta.ca

Office Hours: Mon 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

or by appointment

Course Prerequisite: Arabic 112 or consent of department

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

☐ Yes x No, not needed, no such projects involved

Community Service Learning component

☐ Required ☐ Optional x None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material

X Exam registry – Students' Union

http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services_and_businesses/services/infolink/exams

☐ See explanations below

☐ Document distributed in class

☐ Other (*please specify*)

☐ NA

Course Description and Objectives:

This course aims to develop your skills in Modern Standard Arabic (MSA), the language read and understood by educated Arabs from Iraq to Morocco, through systematic instruction and drills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. There will be four hours of instruction per week.

During this term, we will cover lessons 14-20 from *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'alum al'Arabiyya: A Textbook for Arabic, Part One*. Selected readings in modern Arabic literature and culture topics will be provided for reading, discussion, and translation. Students will be introduced to Arabic poetry, narrative prose, and proverbs, as a means of building vocabulary and in order to become familiar with Arab culture.

Students who have not taken Arabic 112 should make sure they possess a firm understanding and practical mastery of lessons 1-13 in *Al-Kitaab fii Ta`alum al`Arabiyya: A Textbook for Arabic, Part One* (as well as all material in the introductory book *Alif Baa*, available for your perusal in the SUB bookstore).

Texts:

Required books:

1. Kristen Brustad, et al. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta`alum al`Arabiyya: A Textbook for Arabic, Part One*. Georgetown University Press, Second Edition, 2004.
2. Hans Wehr. *A Dictionary for Modern Written Arabic*. Spoken Languages Services, various editions (Arabic-English dictionary).

Course Schedule:

	Mon	Tues	Thurs	Lessons
Week 1			September 8	Introduction
Week 2	September 12	September 13	September 15	Lesson 14
Week 3	September 19	September 20 Arab film	September 22 Language activities	Arab Film & Language activities
Week 4	September 26	September 27	September 29	Lesson 15
Week 5	October 3	October 4	October 6	Lesson 16
Week 6	October 10	October 11 Arabic Proverbs	October 13 Review	Arabic Proverbs & Review
Week 7	October 17	October 18 Midterm, (20%)	October 20 Introduction to Arabic Poetry	October 18 Midterm, (20%) & Arabic Poetry
Week 8	October 24	October 25	October 27	Lesson 17
Week 9	October 31	November 1	November 3	Lesson 18
Week 10	November 7	November 8	November 10 No class	Lesson 19
Week 11	November 14	November 15	November 17	Lesson 19 & Language activities;
Week 12	November 21	November 22	November 24	Lesson 20
Week 13	November 28	November 29	December 1	Class presentations
Week 14	December 5	December 6		Review

Final exam: (Dec 14-2011 (Wednesday) @ 2:00 p.m.)

Final Exam Information:

Exam Schedules for the 2010-2011 Academic year can be found at the following site:
<http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/ro.cfm?id=519>.

Deferred Final Exam: Wednesday, December 21- 2011 in the instructor's office.

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Activity	%
One midterm (October 18)	25%
Homework assignments (due every Thursday)	15%
Attendance, participation, and oral activities	15%
Class presentations (November 28, 29 and December 1)	10%
Final Exam (Dec 14-2011 (Wednesday) @ 2:00 p.m.)	35%
Total	100%

Explanatory Notes on Textbook Assignments:

- **Textbook assignments are given each class and due every Thursday.**
- **In case of absence it is the student’s responsibility to recover missed assignments from the instructor.**

Writing assignments:

- **Arab Film review due Sept 29.**
- **Arabic Proverbs translation due Oct 13.**
- **Arabic Poet biography due Nov 3.**

Policy for Late Assignments:

- Students who consult **in advance** with an instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension just one time throughout the course with no penalty. However, if a second excuse will be granted for late assignments, half of the mark assigned for this particular work will be deducted. Otherwise, all assignments should be handed in on the stated deadline. Any assignment not handed-in in time or unexcused late assignments will not be given any marks. Late excuses will **not** be accepted for any reason.

Required Notes:

“Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University Calendar.” (GFC 29 SEP 2003). “The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.ualberta.ca/secretariat/appeals.htm) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.” (GFC 29 SEP 2003)

☛ *Plagiarism and Cheating:*

All students should consult the “Truth-In-Education” handbook or Website (<http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/TIE/>) regarding the definitions of **plagiarism** and its consequences when detected.

Students involved in **language** courses and **translation** courses should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.”

Students in languages courses should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, **excessive editorial and creative help** in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences. An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. Before unpleasantness occurs consult <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/TIE/>; also discuss this matter with any tutor(s) and with your instructor.

☛ *Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:*

Regular daily attendance is essential for optimal performance in a foreign-language course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.4.2 and 23.4.3 of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result. In this course, “attendance and participation” means attending each class, from beginning to end, paying attention to the instructor, and participating fully in all class activities.

In this course: Students are expected to attend class regularly, hand in assignments on time, participate actively in the written and oral drills in the classroom and do homework conscientiously.

Regular attendance is mandatory; unexcused absences and lateness will negatively impact your grade.

If absence is due to severe illness or any other considerable reason, student should inform the instructor **before** the beginning of class (even by e-mail). No excuse will be accepted if the instructor is not informed before class, unless in case of emergency. The instructor may accept reasonable excuse for absence with no penalty once or twice throughout the course, otherwise frequent excused absences (with no emergency reasons) will impact your grade.

In case of unexcused and unjustified absence from test and/or exam, the instructor may not accept to reschedule this particular exam.

☛ *Policy for Late Assignments:*

Students who consult in advance with an instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension. Otherwise, grades will be reduced by 5% per class-day of lateness.

Grading:

Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below (“**MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale**”). The percentage mark resulting from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Letter	%	Pts	Descriptor
A+	95-100%	4.0	Outstanding: Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of the subject matter far exceeding expectations.
A	90-94%	4.0	Excellent: Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	86-89%	3.7	Very good: Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter.
B+	82-85%	3.3	Very good
B	75-81%	3.0	Good: average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	70-74%	2.7	Good
C+	66-69%	2.3	Satisfactory: Basic understanding of the subject matter
C	61-65%	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	58-60%	1.7	Satisfactory
D+	55-57%	1.3	Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
D	50-54%	1.0	Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
F	0-49%	0.0	Fail: Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.